

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE
TO BE INSPIRED TO LIVE AS A COMMUNITY OF CHRIST

+ *Those who are able are invited to stand.*

UMH - United Methodist Hymnal FWS – The Faith We Sing

You are invited to respond with the **Boldface** responses.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC. *Carolyn Brown*

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HOSPITALITY

PRELUDE *Dan Martin*

SERVICE OF LIGHT *The Acolytes*
Jesus said, “I am the Light of the world.”

+CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP *UMH 139*
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, v. 5

**Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises
before him! Let the amen sound from his people
again; gladly forever adore him.**

+CALL TO WORSHIP *Responsively*
Come and hear the good news.

No matter what is happening in your life, God’s blessing
and love is with you. Come and hear what God wants you
to do: live lives of love and truth. Come and get courage
and strength to be fools for Christ, embracing Kingdom
values rather than those of the world.

**We’re here, ready to listen, open to change,
expecting to be blessed by our time together.**

+INVOCATION *Leader*
Loving God, we come this morning seeking to abide in
your presence. Open our minds to your spirit of wisdom,
that we may know how to live as your people. Open our

hearts to your spirit of truth, that we may love all your
people with a love that speaks of justice, kindness, and
radical grace. May this time of worship be authentic and
pleasing to you.

Amen.

+ HYMN OF CELEBRATION *UMH 100*
God, Whose Love Is Reigning o'er Us

THE CHURCH IN MOMENTS OF CONFESSION

CALL TO CONFESSION *Leader*
The confession of our sin before God and one another reminds
us that as individual believers and as a community of faith, we
do stray or turn from the ways of love and grace. We believe
that if we confess, we shall be forgiven and freed from the
burden of guilt and empowered to carry on the ministry of
Christ. With confidence in the mercy of God, let us pray
together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *Responsively*
Far too often, O God, we desire to look wise in the eyes
of the world. We have not spoken truth with our hearts.
We have said and done hurtful and judgmental things to
our friends. We have forgotten our true identity,
wandering into ways that are not yours. We have lost the
path of true worship, focusing on form and words rather
than deeds. We have forgotten what true discipleship is.
And because of this, you have a quarrel with us.

**Forgive us and help us live into becoming the people
you have created and called us to be: people of love
and truth and humility, and yes, even foolishness.
May we be fools for Christ, embracing our true
identity, even in the face of the world’s scorn and
disrespect.**

PERSONAL PRAYER OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE *Leader*
God has called us and blesses us when we live God’s
ways and not the world’s. God’s love embraces us even
when we fall short of what God desires for our lives and
actions. Know that the God of blessing loves and

forgives us with a fierce tenderness. And in so knowing,
may our lives and souls be transformed.

Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE *UMH 354*
I Surrender All

THE CHURCH SHARES

OFFERTORY INVITATION AND PRAYER
February Loose Change Offering: Upshur Parish House

OFFERTORY *Dan Martin*

+DOXOLOGY *UMH 621*
**Be present at our table, Lord;
be here and everywhere adored;
thy creatures bless, and grant that we
may feast in paradise with thee.**

The Children are invited to Wiggletime!

THE CHURCH LISTENS FOR THE WORD

WIGGLETIME *...then, it’s off to Children’s Church!*

ANTHEM *Chancel Choir*

SERMON *Rev. M. Steven Meadows*

PIANO SOLO *Carolyn Brown*

THE CHURCH CELEBRATES COMMUNION



GREAT THANKSGIVING
God be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to God.
Let us give thanks to God.
**It is right to give our thanks and
praise.**

It is a joy to speak your name, O God. We honor you
with worship and praise. We give thanks that you come
near to us. Throughout all times and places you have
reached out to your people, gathering them in, lifting

them up; always leading and never failing to be their God in times of peril and years of glory. We join our voices with the chorus of heaven and earth, singing:

Holy, holy, holy One, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in God's own name.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed and blessing is the One who comes through Mary and the Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ, the Child of God and friend of sinners, embraced our humanity by wearing it and graced our earth by walking it. Sinless was his presence and perfect was his offering on the cross. Jesus Christ now calls all women men, girls and boys to live as God's own children.

Christ has died. Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

So let our faith be sustained and its mystery deepened through this meal of grain and fruit. By the power of your Holy Spirit, this bread and juice becomes the feast of heaven, and we become one people in Christ. This meal is for now, but its hope is forever. Hear our prayer, in the name of the One who comes to save.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Unison

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

BLESSING OF THE ELEMENTS

Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

*As you move forward to receive the bread and cup,
pray for those around you, and after you've received the
elements, you're welcome to stand or kneel
at the Chancel in personal prayer.*

THE CHURCH SCATTERS TO SHARE GOOD NEWS

+HYMN OF DEDICATION

UMH 338

Where He Leads Me

+ SERVICE OF LIGHT

The Acolytes

Jesus said, "You are the Light of the world."

+BENEDICTION

For the healing you have given us in the broken bread and the sharing of the cup, we thank you. For the community that you have restored in us through the sharing of life, we thank you. For the courage and strength that you have promised to us, letting the Good News sound out in our world and lives in love, we thank you.


Amen.



+POSTLUDE

Dan Martin

...and the worship continues.

...bringing to hungry souls the
Bread of Life



 
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